



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • ROOM 271  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02133  
TEL: (617) 725-4030 • FAX: (617) 727-8290

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR'S LEGAL COUNSEL

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MARK A. REILLY  
CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL

E. ABIM THOMAS  
DEPUTY CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL

ELIZABETH DUBIN NADZO  
DEPUTY LEGAL COUNSEL

CARRIE WICKER  
DEPUTY LEGAL COUNSEL

NICHOLAS P. MARTINELLI  
DEPUTY LEGAL COUNSEL

August 6, 2012

**VIA EMAIL**

Shawn Musgrave  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 1654  
PO Box 55819  
Boston, MA 02205-5819  
[1654-27632162@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:1654-27632162@requests.muckrock.com)

Dear Mr. Musgrave:

I write in response to your public records requests to the Office of the Governor seeking: "all documents relating to Governor Patrick's Executive Order 530 and the Community, Social Service and Paratransit Commission established by that order."

As a threshold matter, please be advised that in Lambert v. Executive Director of the Judicial Nominating Council, 425 Mass. 406, 409 (1997), the Supreme Judicial Court held that the Office of the Governor is not one of the instrumentalities enumerated in M.G.L. ch. 4, § 7(26), whose records are subject to disclosure under the public records law.

Notwithstanding Lambert, it is the practice of the Office voluntarily to consider and to respond to public records requests on a case-by-case basis. In that regard, we are reviewing your request and will follow up with you when that review is completed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Abim Thomas", with a stylized, cursive script.

E. Abim Thomas